

**Department of Public Works and Transportation
Montgomery County, Maryland**

DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES



“Digger the Worm” greets children at Lakeforest Mall
for the Month of the Young Child Celebration.

***MONTHLY REPORT
MARCH 2002***



Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>OVERVIEW</u>	3
<u>CITIZEN COMMITTEES</u>	4
<u>COLLECTIONS</u>	5
<u>WASTE MINIMIZATION</u>	5
<u>HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS</u>	6
<u>AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS</u>	7
<u>RECYCLING</u>	8
<u>PILOT PROGRAMS</u>	9
<u>FACILITY ACTIVITIES</u>	9
<u>GENERAL INFORMATION</u>	13
<u>SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL</u>	14
<u>GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS</u>	15

OVERVIEW

Tonnage at a Glance

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2002 began July 1, 2001.)

FACILITY	Mar FY 02	FY 02 Total	Mar FY 01	Mar FY 00
Materials Recovery Facility ⁽¹⁾	6,457 tons	59,603 tons	6,233 tons	5,817 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility ⁽⁴⁾	17,747 tons	170,421 tons	13,010 tons	12,679 tons
American Ash Recycling ⁽²⁾	N/A	N/A	3,122 tons	3,464 tons
Resource Recovery Facility ⁽³⁾	47,954 tons	425,906 tons	43,531 tons	42,533 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	1,499 tons	45,994 tons	2,873 tons	2,456 tons

⁽¹⁾MRF tons reported are outgoing.

⁽²⁾Tons shipped out to ash recycling facility during the indicated period. All tons so shipped are recycled.

⁽³⁾RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here.

⁽⁴⁾This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled at Clean Rock or other locations.

Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation – During March, program staff:

- Assisted with budget management as necessary due to the vacancy of Budget Manager Position;
- Obtained freeze exemption and prepared advertisement for the Budget Manager Position;
- Prepared and issued web-based invoices and mailed hard copies to all refuse collector credit accounts for month number 4 of the new Hauler Billing System including--
 - Balancing to FAMIS exactly and preparing all necessary Journal Entries for posting;
 - Completing implementation of automated Aging Report (e.g. we are now able to reflect payments as soon as they are applied in the system, giving us an accurate real-time picture throughout the month of who has and has not paid); and
 - Maintained contact with account holders as needed to assure payment compliance;

- Gathered and assessed private hauler contract data (\$/cubic yard for various hauling services) in an effort to understand recycling incentives in the non-residential sector;
- Prepared Rate Resolution for FY03;
- Made final changes in Program Measures for publishing;
- Coordinated final posting of Recycling Rate Report on the Web;
- Performed field audits of hauler reports submitted for the July - Dec period;
- Completed compiling data from above into Access database for CY01 mass flow analysis;
- Recorded data from secondary materials processors into same database;
- Continued quality assurance reviews of accounts in the database for corrections in the premise addresses, land use codes, gross floor area and other fields—
 - Sent 20 problems to State Department of Assessment and Taxation for updating;
 - Processed 168 changes in the TXA170 system, 3 refunds and 1 revised bill;
 - Entered additional nonresidential appeal results in the TXA170 system; and
 - Researched routine level of billing inquiries from property owners;
- Sent the quarterly report of service house counts to each collection contractor;
- Assisted evaluation process for selecting an Oracle Database Auditor;
- Began training Joan Foster in managing the new hauler billing system;
- Suspended training Karen Stephenson in critical billing accounts maintenance responsibilities of the vacated and frozen Program Specialist I position due to Karen's acceptance of a permanent position in another Department. Prepared a freeze exemption request to enable filling the position, and began the process of finding another temporary fill-in; and
- Continued statistical research on field data to enhance future non-residential rate structure.

CITIZEN COMMITTEES

Facilities Implementation Group – FIG met on March 12, 2002, at the Gothic Barn in Dickerson. Among the topics discussed was the fire at the Compost Facility on March 10, 2002, and an update on the Winter Traffic Monitoring. The next scheduled FIG meeting is May 14, 2002, at the Gothic Barn.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – SWAC met Tuesday, March 19th, in the EOB, 6th Floor Conference Room. Twelve SWAC members, eight County staff and four guests were in attendance. DSWS staff gave presentations on the County Executive's FY03

Recommended Operating Budget. The Committee also discussed the Recycling Workshop Continuance Groups.

COLLECTIONS

Refuse – Refuse collections went as scheduled for the month of March. Collections were made without incident.

Recycling – Mixed paper tonnages for the residential program during the past 32 weeks are as follows:

8/6/01 through 8/31/01	9.10 lbs. per household
9/3/01 through 9/28/01	10.08 lbs. per household
10/1/01 through 10/26/01	11.10 lbs. per household
10/29/01 through 11/23/01	10.83 lbs. per household
11/26/01 through 12/21/01	11.52 lbs. per household
12/24/01 through 1/18/02	9.58 lbs. per household
1/21/02 through 2/15/02	9.01 lbs. per household
2/18/02 through 3/15/02	9.02 lbs. per household

Contractor Performance – In March, DSWS received 914 complaints. This represented a 235% increase from March 2001, which had 389 complaints.

Enforcement Actions – Seven citations were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Three citations	Not having a valid collector's tag attached	\$1,500
Two citations	Not having a current collectors license	\$1,000
One citation	Early morning collections	\$ 500
One citation	Accumulation of solid wastes	\$ 750

Five NOV's were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Three NOV's	Dumping solid wastes at unapproved acceptance facility
One NOV	Not having a valid collector's tag attached
One NOV	Accumulation of solid wastes

Customer Service – DSWS received 8,641 incoming calls and 332 follow-up calls were made for quality check. There were 1,299 blue bins delivered and 242 e-mail requests handled by the Customer Service Staff.

WASTE MINIMIZATION

Latex Paint Management – DSWS continues to promote home management of latex

paint, and in particular, Waste Paint Hardener. The campaign has substantially reduced the amount of latex paint coming into the HHW program. Compared to March 2001, the HHW program saw more than 190 more patrons and an estimated 1300 FEWER gallons of all paints.

Computer Recycling – Approximately 30 tons of computers were recycled in March under the computer recycling program. The County recycled approximately 2 tons of computers during the Market Pro Computer Show at the Fairgrounds on March 23-24, 2002.

Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities – Green Man column continues in the Gazette Newspapers. One-minute Grasscycling messages for WARW-FM are ready for airing in April.

Took part in delegation visiting James River Correctional Facility, near Richmond, Virginia, to explore management of their in-vessel composting system for possible use with the Department of Corrections to handle approximately 1,500 pounds of food waste daily. Follow-up research with Wright Environmental, manufacturer of the in-vessel system, is leading to potential in-vessel applications for Montgomery College and the Montgomery County Public School system, at least as pilot projects.

Finished scheduling composting and alternative landscaping workshops for April and May.

Full advertising schedule for grasscycling and related ads is currently running in the Gazette Newspapers countywide, including weekend editions.

RainScape gardens, which emphasize reduced turf areas, natural water – and stormwater filtration, and native plantings, have now been installed at the Audubon Naturalist Society and Poolesville High School (Global Ecology Program); the Poolesville Garden will be featured during the school's Environmental Exposition on May 4th.

HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – HHW events were held on Sunday, March 3rd at the Transfer Station and Sunday, March 10th at Silver Spring Parking Lot #2. URS submitted final plans for a roof over the HHW compound, and the plans were transmitted to a Facilities and Services contractor for pricing purposes. Beginning in April, citizens will receive a free digital thermometer when they bring in a mercury (Hg) fever thermometer. Hg thermometers present a particular hazard in the household.

Small Quantity Generator (Ecowise) Program – One Small Quantity Generator (SQG)/Ecowise event was held on March 13th; 10 businesses participated.

AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEM Tracking of RRF Operations – The Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) continued to track the percent load, certain engineering parameters and emissions of the three units. The system indicated that units 1 and 2 have been operating since February 5 until March 3. The system independently tracked the shutdown of unit 2 at about 10 p.m. on March 3rd displaying a spike in the Carbon Monoxide (CO) emissions at that hour, and no further emissions of any pollutant after 10 p.m. Inquiries with the RRF Plant Manager indicated that the cause for the shutdown was a tube leak. CEMS also indicated the beginning of stack emissions for unit 3 starting at 2 a.m. on March 4th. This unit was brought on-line to handle the accumulated waste in the pit. The leaking tube in unit 2 was repaired within 24 hours and the unit was brought back on-line on March 4th around midnight. CEMS began showing emissions for this unit starting at that hour. Thereafter, the system recorded emissions for all three units until March 13th when unit 1 was brought off-line. Units 2 and 3 continued to operate until March 22nd when unit 1 was brought back on-line at 1 a.m. Thereafter, the system recorded emissions for all three units till the end of the month. There were no equipment malfunctions in March that affected stack emissions.

Finally, the problem of midnight data recovery by CEMS website was solved in March. The system is recording the 3-hour SO₂, 4-hour CO and 24-hour NO_x data.

In the first week of March, the set of eight CEMS CD-ROM's was updated to include CEMS data up to February 28, 2002. Copies of the CD-ROM's were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to FIG Air Quality Subcommittee.

On March 19th, NEA transmitted two documents to EPA Region III. These two documents are the Agency's inspection report, and responses to the Agency's questions seeking additional information that is primarily related to emissions and air pollution controls at the facility. These documents included comments and clarifications by DSWS, Covanta and NEA.

On March 28th, DSWS arranged to have one of DEP's certified inspectors conduct the monthly "Opacity test" for the RRF stack. This is a requirement under Title V of the RRF Air Permit.

Covanta prepared the Annual Emissions Certification document that was due to MDE by April 1st. DSWS reviewed the document and the final version was submitted to MDE on March 28th.

Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology – In March, the leachate evaporator operated for only 16 days. The ground-flare was operating for the remainder of the month. Bentech is still pursuing efforts to implement an electrical generating facility.

FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee – A meeting of the Subcommittee was held on March 6th to discuss the final draft of the RRF Epidemiology Study. The final report took into account comments made by DSWS and the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee briefed FIG at the March 12th meeting.

Currently, ENSR is also in the process of preparing a draft report on the Non-Air Media Monitoring Program conducted in Fall 2001. This report is expected by the end of April 2002.

Contracts – In March, a mini-contract for the Meteorological Services was prepared and submitted to the Office of Procurement. The current contract with RAS Enterprises will expire on June 3, 2002. An amendment to the SCS Contract was also prepared for performing emergency work for the LFG collection system at the Oaks.

RECYCLING

Public Outreach – A Recycling Task Force meeting was held on March 20, 2002. Canvassing on the mixed paper recycling program continues. Recruiting canvassers continues, especially in preparation for the better weather and longer days. Updating of brochures and flyers, and creation of two new information pieces is underway. In addition, translation of select materials into Spanish and Chinese is beginning.

Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction – Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs for businesses. Ten NOV's were issued to large businesses that did not submit their annual report by the February 1st due date. All NOV's have been resolved. Staff participated in a private school recycling kick-off program and staffed an information table at a special event at Parkside Estates.

Multi-Family Recycling – Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs and work with property managers and residents to provide assistance and support. No NOV's were issued this month. All Annual Reports have been reviewed and staff have started to audit reports and select properties with successful programs for special recognition during Recycling Awareness Week.

Mixed Paper Recycling – Canvassing continues in the Montgomery Village area—almost half of the area has been canvassed. Canvassers are equipped with mixed paper recycling information, and mixed paper recycling demonstration kits. A new door-hanger about mixed paper recycling has been produced for use in the canvassing effort.

Volunteer Activities - For the month of March, the Volunteer Program Manager assisted in the Canvassing Initiative, and volunteers assisted in the computer recycling at the Market Pro Computer Show and two HHW collections. A training session for neighborhood block captains was held.

PILOT PROGRAMS

Mixed Paper Pilot – The March totals for the Potomac Paper Cart program are:

3/6/02	Scales not operating, no data		
3/13/02	13,700 lbs.		16.91 lbs. per household
3/20/02	16,780 lbs.		20.71 lbs. per household
3/27/02	16,840 lbs.		20.79 lbs. per household
Total	47,320 lbs.	Average:	19.47 lbs. per household

The current average weight per house for the 26 weeks of the cart program is 20.37 lbs. as opposed to 13.99 lbs. per house prior to the program. This represents a 45.6% increase in the mixed paper capture rate since the start of the cart program.

Tubgrinding Pilot – Tubgrinding of screened reject material is ongoing.

FACILITY ACTIVITIES

Resource Recovery Facility – The facility ran with 3 boilers for the month of March with the following exceptions: unit 1 was taken out of service from March 13-22, 2002, to perform an internal inspection and unit 2 was taken out of service from March 3-5, 2002, to repair a boiler leak and unit 3 was out of service March 1-3, 2002, due to pit management.

Covanta declared Chapter 11 bankruptcy on April 1st. The plant continues to function and Covanta has developed agreements to ensure the delivery of required supplies and materials.

The ad hoc committee (SWAC & FIG) for developing the protocol for radiation alarms held its third conference call on March 8th and completed its comment and review of the subject protocol. The protocol was sent to MDE for comments.

A letter, to specific companies with radioactive material licenses, to inform them of our new equipment was reviewed and commented on by the committee. The final letter will be issued the 2nd week in April.

On March 4th the radiation detectors alarmed while passing box 093. Upon examination by RSO, the box was found to contain material (rubber gloves, rad label waste, vials, swipes etc.) that was contaminated with Cobalt-60. RSO, notified MDE, then boxed and transported the material back to their office for further analysis and final disposal preparation. The generator of the material was not identified.

There were no operating curtailments from Mirant and no turbine/generator trips during the month.

There were no air or water quality excursions during the month.

The following environmental activities occurred:

- Submitted the 2001 Emissions Certification to MDE.
- Submitted the 2001 Compliance Certification to EPA Region III/MDE.
- Submitted the February 2002 Potable Water Monthly Operating Report to MDE.
- MCDEP/Covanta & MDE performed monthly visible emissions (Method 9) observations required by the Title V permit on March 28-29th respectively.
- Conducted sampling to conduct ash testing on March 5&6th and March 11&17th. Results are due by mid April. Early indications indicate no problems.

Materials Recovery Facility – Approximately 1,688 tons of commingled material were shipped out after processing, and approximately 4,769 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility.

Design is nearly complete for the new processing equipment project. The Recycling Center is scheduled to stop processing operations for 10 weeks, beginning 17 June, for installation of the new equipment. During this time, the receiving area will remain operational. The commingled collected will be transferred to an alternate processing facility. As part of the “spring cleaning”, the scale house, storage hoppers and protective perimeter wall in the processing area were all repainted; the parking lot was re-stripped; and landscaping improvements were made.

Oaks Landfill – The landfill gas management system has been running well. However, there is still a need to replace corroding steel pipes. DSWS drafted a contract amendment to forward to Procurement which would use the current SCS Field Services contract to perform the pipe replacement.

DSWS met with Weston, the operations contractor for the leachate pre-treatment plant, to discuss plans to expand the capacity of the existing oil/grit cleanout receiving area.

SCS Engineers submitted design plans to DSWS for subdividing the leachate storage lagoons to facilitate long-term maintenance.

The County’s consultant, R.W. Beck (a subcontractor to Post, Buckley, Schuh & Jernigan) submitted a final report, incorporating DSWS comments, assessing the feasibility of the County constructing a gas-to-energy facility at the Oaks Landfill.

Gude Landfill – Highway and Safety Services, Inc., which has a unit price contract with the County for general construction services, developed and submitted a cost proposal for the repair of several poorly drained areas at the Gude Landfill.

Beantown Dump – Of the scheduled 106 methane detectors to be installed in businesses, 96 were completed in March. The remaining businesses to receive a detector should have them by May. The bid for installing a passive landfill gas venting system is scheduled for issuance in late April.

Transfer Station – During March, Covanta shipped via rail 45,656 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the Resource Recovery Facility, 2,140 more tons than shipped in March 2001.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

Installation of new radiation detection equipment at the scales is completed. Work was performed on finalizing radiation procedures.

Completed survey work on the property adjacent to SEARS and got proposal for installing fence along the property line.

Operated the Mobark tub grinder in the evenings while the enclosed tub grinder was sent to the Dickerson Compost Facility to grind screenings.

Site 2 Landfill Properties – DFS received 6 proposals for the renovation and leasing of the property. The Chiswell Subcommittee interviewed 3 of the applicants in February. The rest will be interviewed in May. It is anticipated that a lease will be signed by July 1, 2002.

Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan – SCS Engineers were selected to update the Facilities Master Plan.

Berm construction between the Compost Facility and the Gothic Barn is complete; negotiations are ongoing with C&C Farms to plant native and drought resistant plants on the berm this spring.

The Winter Traffic Count to determine the impact of the County facilities in Dickerson on the community was conducted from January 7-11, 2002. A draft report was presented to FIG for comments in March. A Spring Traffic Count will be conducted in mid May.

Yard Trim Compost Facility – On March 10th, there was a fire at the Compost Facility; about 3,000 tons of the leaves collected in the fall were lost. The cause of the fire has not been determined.

In March, the Yard Trim Facility received 1,499 tons of leaves for composting.

Bagging Operation – In March, 61,650 bags of Leafgro were produced at the facility and 32,555 bags were shipped to distributors.

Linden Farm Renovations – Under the signed bagging agreement, the County is to renovate the Feed Barn and Bank Barn. Dean Fitzgerald, the contractor, started the renovation work in June 2001. The first phase of the work is complete.

Out-of-County Haul

Brunswick County, Virginia – During the month of March, about 12,251 tons of ash residue and 5,496 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's

dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. About 928 tons of material was recycled at Clean Earth in Hagerstown, MD, including about 18 tons of wood waste. Maintenance on the ash container fleet, including replacement of corroded side panels, continues at the Collier Rail Yard near Petersburg, Virginia.

Ash Recycling – The County and NEA decided not to pursue this at this time.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Important Telephone Numbers

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370 (County Office) 301-590-1032 (Covanta)
Materials Recovery Facility	301-840-2701 (County Office) 301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	301-349-5685 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWS	www.mcrecycles.org

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

Theresa Souders
Department of Public Works and Transportation
Division of Solid Waste Services
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850
Tel: 240-777-6425
Fax: 240-777-6465
E-mail: soudet@co.mo.md.us

SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

TOPIC OR FACILITY	
Latest Recycling Rate Reported in Montgomery County	37.2% (FY01)
Recycling Goal	45% by December 2002 50% by December 2004
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY01 tons received- 59,643
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	84,788
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	200,206
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
LFG	Landfill Gas
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
Mg/l	milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NEA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPS	Office Paper Systems
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SDAT	State Department of Assessments and Taxation
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TXA170	Computer Interface Program
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
T.R.R.A.C.	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility